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Written statement* submitted by the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[16 February 2015]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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International Criteria: Challenges and Strategies

Spread of terrorism continues to threaten humanity, international security and the relations between states world over. It also profoundly affects the mandate and functions of the respective international institutions that are responsible for protecting and maintaining international peace and security. Accordingly, the fight against terrorism and defending victims of this heinous phenomenon, as a capital challenge, is expected to rightly remain at the heart of the issues to be addressed by international institutions and UN member states.

The continued spread of brutal terrorism that is deeply rooted in the vicious circle of ignorance, hatred and intolerance tends to gravely violate the foundation of the international law and particularly the basic human rights, namely the right to life. Reverting this most heinous circle calls for an international will for collective and concerted action.

Being cognizant and while welcoming the adoption of resolutions against terrorism by the United Nations bodies such as the UN Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), resolution 1535 (2004), International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999), we wish to underscore the following to further improve the efficiency of the relevant international documents :

Due to complex and confounding aspects of the terrorist groups activities and the existing ambiguities and incongruities in definitions , concepts and instances of terrorism in the international instruments , that could potentially lead to adoption of erroneous and /or selective approaches , we call on the United Nations to establish a Working Group of legal experts to review and evaluate the adequacy of the provisions of the related conventions and resolutions on the fight against terrorism and the protection of victims of terrorism .We also reiterated the need for due implementation of the UN conventions and resolutions on fighting against terrorism, including the criminalization in the contexts of the international documents.

For the proper implementation of the provisions of UN Security Council Resolution 1373, we furthermore call on the UN Secretary-General to delegate Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) or any other office in charge of fighting terrorism to provide appropriate technical assistance including holding workshop in the member states to assist for an all out and effective international campaign against terrorism . The assistance program, among other things, may also focus on the following items:

a- Identifying channels of illegal funding for terrorist acts by people and or illegal or ill informed groups and how to suppress or ban it

b- Determining the mechanism for blocking financial support of terrorist activities which is beyond national jurisdiction of the victim state.